

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.111
U. S. Application No. 09/657,641

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (original): A method of setting a region to be subjected to red eye correction in which a red eye in an image that has been produced in shooting is corrected into an eye having a pupil of a specified color, comprising the steps of:

automatically extracting only the red eye from a first region including the red eye which has preliminarily been designated by an operator or automatically;

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setting a second region to be subjected to red eye correction for correcting a color of the pupil into said specified color of the pupil; and,

if only the red eye can not automatically be extracted,

setting said second region to be subjected to red eye correction by designating only the red eye by the operator manually.

2. (original): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 1, wherein said first region is at least one of an image frame, a face, an eye and an eye surrounding.

3. (original): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 2, wherein said image frame is designated as said first region using shooting information.

4. (original): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 2, wherein when the eye or the eye surrounding is designated as said first

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region, at least one of each eye and each pair of eyes can be designated by designating one eye by means of pointing the eye or enclosing the eye with an area in a rectangular shape or by designating the pair of eyes by means of connecting the pair of eyes with a line segment or enclosing the pair of eyes with an area in a rectangular shape.

5. (original): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 1, wherein the setting step of said second region is performed on image data which has been subjected to at least one of color adjustment and density correction.

6. (original): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 1, wherein when said second region is set, a position of the red eye is roughly designated in a verification screen for determining an image processing condition including at least one of color and density, a display screen is replaced with an output image and thereafter setting said second region is performed.

7. (original): A red eye correcting method in which a red eye in an image that has been produced in shooting is corrected into an eye having a pupil of a specified color, comprising the steps of:

automatically extracting only the red eye from a first region including the red eye which has preliminarily been designated by an operator or automatically;

setting a second region to be subjected to red eye correction for correcting a color of the pupil into said specified color of the pupil; and,

if only the red eye can not automatically be extracted,

setting said second region to be subjected to red eye correction by designating only the red eye by the operator manually; and

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converting said second region to be subjected to red eye correction thus set into the eye having the pupil of said specified color to correct the red eye.

8. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 7, wherein said first region is at least one of an image frame, a face, an eye and an eye surrounding.

9. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 8, wherein when the image frame is designated as said first region using shooting information.

10. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 8, wherein when the eye or the eye surrounding is designated as said first region, at least one of each eye and each pair of eyes can be designated by designating one eye by means of pointing the eye or enclosing the eye with an area in a rectangular shape or by designating the pair of eyes by means of connecting the pair of eyes with a line segment or enclosing the pair of eyes with an area in a rectangular shape.

11. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 7, wherein setting said second region and said red eye correction are performed on image data which has been subjected to at least one of color adjustment and density correction.

12. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 7, wherein when said second region is set, a position of the red eye is roughly designated in a verification screen for determining an image processing condition including at least one of color and density, a display screen is replaced with an output image and thereafter setting said second region and said red eye correction is performed.

13. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 7, wherein when said image shot as a color image is outputted as a monochrome image, setting said second region and

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said red eye correction are performed on the color image and thereafter said the color image is converted into the monochrome image.

14. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 7, wherein red eye designation by setting said second region is performed on first image data while said red eye correction is performed on second image data based on a result of said red eye designation on said first image data.

15. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 14, wherein a bit number of said first image data is smaller than that of said second image data.

16. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 14, wherein resolution of said first image data is lower than that of said second image data.

17. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 14, wherein an image size of said first image data is smaller than that of said second image data.

18. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 14, wherein said first image data is image data of a partial image of an image represented by said second image data.

19. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 14, wherein said first image data is produced from said second image data.

20. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 14, wherein said first image data is prescanned image data whereas said second image data is fine scanned image data.

21. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 14, wherein when the red eye designation is performed on said first image data and the red eye correction is performed on said second image data, said result of the red eye designation is reserved separately from said first image data and thereafter utilized for said second image data.

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22. (original): The red eye correcting method according to claim 14, wherein red eye designation information to be used as said result of the red eye designation is at least one of red eye position information and red eye region information.

23. (new): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 1 further including judging whether the red eye is extracted in the step of automatically extracting.

24. (new): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 23, wherein if the step of judging determines that the red eye is not extracted then carrying out the step of setting said second region to be subjected to red eye correction by designating only the red eye by the operator manually.

25. (new): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 1, wherein the step of automatically extracting further includes prescanning the image to form the first region and fine scanning the image to form the second region.

26. (new): The red eye correcting method according to claim 7 further including judging whether the red eye is extracted in the step of automatically extracting.

27. (new): The red eye correcting method according to claim 7, wherein the step of automatically extracting further includes prescanning the image to form the first region and fine scanning the image to form the second region.

28. (new): The red eye correcting method according to claim 27 further including displaying the fine scanned image before the step of converting adjacent to the fine scanned image after the step of converting; and

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receiving a user input selecting one of the fine scanned image before the step of converting and the fine scanned image after the step of converting to output a converted image.

29. (new): The red eye correcting method according to claim 7 further including displaying the image before the step of converting adjacent to an image after the step of converting; and

receiving a user input selecting one of the image before the step of converting and the image after the step of converting to output a converted image.

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30. (new): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 3, wherein the shooting information includes information regarding whether a flash is used or not.

31. (new): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 30, wherein the shooting information is determined from a film.

32. (new): The method of setting the region to be subjected to red eye correction according to claim 3, wherein the shooting information is determined from a magnetic recording medium formed on a film.

33. (new): The red eye correcting method according to claim 7, wherein said setting of said second region and said red eye correction are performed on first image data for displaying a first image on a monitor screen, a corrected first image reproduced from said first image data which has been subjected to said red eye correction is displayed on said monitor screen, and then said red eye correction in said corrected first image is verified, and wherein said setting of said second region and said red eye correction are performed on second image data for outputting a print.

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34. (new): The red eye correcting method according to claim 33, wherein said first image data is prescanned image data or image data of low resolution for displaying said first image on said monitor screen, and said second image data is fine scanned image data or image data of high resolution for outputting said print.

35. (new): The red eye correcting method according to claim 14, wherein both of first image data and second image data are image data of said image having said red eye that has been produced in shooting.
